

Environmental Justice and Climate Equity Day

Presented by Council President Sean Elo-Rivera
February 16, 2022

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego is committed to Climate Change mitigation, environmental justice and social equity; **and**

WHEREAS, Historically in San Diego, some communities have been afforded greater access to opportunity than others, resulting in ongoing environmental and climate inequities; **and**

WHEREAS, on February 16, 1994, Executive Order (E.O) 12898 was issued by President William J. Clinton to direct federal attention to the environmental and human health effects of federal actions on Communities of Concern with the goal of achieving environmental protection for all communities; **and**

WHEREAS, 27 years later, 13 census tracts in the City of San Diego were identified as having very low access to opportunity in which 96% identify as people of color. 48 census tracts were identified as having low access to opportunity, with an average of 81% identifying as people of color. 64 tracts were identified as having moderate access to opportunity, with an average of 63% of their population identifying as people of color. The City of San Diego recognizes these communities as Communities of Concern; **and**

WHEREAS, these Communities of Concern experience higher flood and fire risk, closer proximity to toxic waste sites, drinking water contamination, and higher urban heat indexes, among other issues, as compared to those census tracts with fewer barriers to opportunities; **and**

WHEREAS, these inequities are still being experienced and everyone should share the same benefits and burdens from climate solutions and attain full and equal access to opportunities regardless of one's background and identity; **and**

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego has a Climate Action Plan, a Climate Equity Index, and The Climate Equity Fund, all developed to address climate change mitigation and historical inequities experienced by people of color and Communities of Concern; **and**

WHEREAS, all residents, civil servants, businesses, schools, and community and faith-based organizations are called upon to engage in

environmental justice and climate equity efforts, in partnership; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of San Diego, on behalf of the City and all of the citizens thereof, that February 16th, 2022, is proclaimed as "**Environmental Justice and Climate Equity Day**" in the City of San Diego.